Mr. M. M. Paul *(Director of Food Supplies):* No difference. The whole thing will be measured and distributed according to the number of members in a family and it will be issued as one piece.

Mr. A. B. Salem *(Mattancheri):* What is the quantity that the Government is going to fix for women. How many yards are required for one mundoo ?

Mr. M. M. Paul *(Director of Food Supplies):* The quota for women is the same as for men.

Mr. A. B. Salem *(Mattancheri):* There are variations in the customs of the country.

Mr. M. M. Paul *(Director of Food Supplies):* When it is issued in a piece it will be convenient to cut it according to the needs.

Mr. A. B. Salem *(Mattancheri):* That is true. But what I am asking is whether there is any difference in the quota for women ?

Rama Varmha Tampuran *(Secretary to Government):* The standard is fixed considering the quota that we have received. If there is a larger quota we will get an increased rate.

Mr. A. B. Salem *(Mattancheri):* Suppose there are 12 members in a family, 6 women, 3 boys and 3 men. The boys and the men must get their mundoos. These 6 women, what will they get ?

Rama Varmha Tampuran *(Secretary to Government):* We can distribute only according to what we receive.

Mr. M. M. Paul *(Director of Food Supplies):* It may not be possible to meet the entire needs.

Mr. A. B. Salem *(Mattancheri):* These women require at least 6 yards for a sari and four yards for a mundoo. Representation must be made in this behalf.

Mr. President : This distribution is meant primarily for the poor.

Mr. A. L. Antony *(Irinjalakkuda):* Is this three yards for a month or a year ?

Mr. M. M. Paul *(Director of Food Supplies):* For the first half year. After 6 months we will get another quota.

Mr. B. M. Peter *(Latin Christians-Mattancheri) :* What is the minimum quantity required for our State ?

Mr. M. M. Paul *(Director of Food Supplies):* I am sorry I have not got the figures.

STAFF SELECTION BOARD—RULES REGARDING

72. Mr. K. Kunhirama Menon *(Cheruthuruthi):* Will Government be pleased to state.—

(*a*) when the Staff Selection Board was started;
(*b*) what was the number of applications received during that year;
(*c*) if all those applicants have been entertained in service;
(*d*) when any vacancy occurs do the Board go into the back applicants' list and give them preference over new applicants ?

Rama Varmha Tampuran *(Secretary to Government):*

(*a*) On first Kanni 1112.
(*b*) 2,764.
(*c*) No.
(*d*) The Board is guided by the rules framed by Government for its functioning. Copy of the rules is placed on the table.

Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan *(Vadakkancheri):* May I know, Sir, whether all the rules laid down here in the rules placed on the table are strictly and scrupulously observed in the selection of candidates ?

Rama Varmha Tampuran *(Secretary to Government):* Yes. They are.

Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan *(Vadakkancheri):* May I know, Sir, whether the directions given in paragraph 4 of the rules, *viz.*, for this purpose the Board will be at liberty to summon candidates for personal interviews and to conduct if necessary a *viva voce* examination for the purpose of testing the general knowledge and efficiency of the candidate, are followed ?

Rama Varmha Tampuran *(Secretary to Government):* That is not generally done. It is not compulsory.

Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan *(Vadakkancheri):* May I know, why that is no being done.

Rama Varmha Tampuran *(Secretary to Government):* It is not necessary on the part of the Staff Selection Board. We have no objection to do it. But the work will be increased. That

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means we have to appoint a commission. A board with three officers already heavily worked should have to find every week one or two hours, and it may be possible. But if we have to interview all candidates it will be troublesome. In some cases we are interviewing candidates, as for example in the selection of forest guards, etc., where physical fitness is most important. Sometimes references are made to Heads of Departments. At times we advertise and get applications and we refer them to the Departmental heads. Otherwise we go mainly by seniority in age. That is what we generally do. Suppose there are two applicants from the same community, aged 23 and 25. Generally we give preference to the man of 24 because he may not be adversely affected by age bar. Then again there will be a large number of thrown out hands who have to be provided for. When the Board came to function there was a long list of such hands and I do not think that even now that list is exhausted. The chances of new appointments are few and far between. Therefore occasions for such personal interviews have never arisen.

Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan *(Vadakkancheri):* In the light of that attempted side tracking of the issue, May I know, Sir, in the selection of candidates for posts requiring technical qualifications where there has been one solitary instance in which the departmental head concerned has been consulted as a matter of fact.

Rama Varmha Tampuran *(Secretary to Government):* Yes.

Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan *(Vadakkancheri):* May I know whether rule 4 is nothing but a replica of the Public Service Commission rules in Madras.

Rama Varmha Tampuran *(Secretary to Government):* It may be, I do not know.

Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan *(Vadakkancheri):* I am sorry, Sir, for the answer. My question was whether this is not a replica of the Madras Service Commission rule and the answer is "it might or might not be". It is not an answer that we expect from the Government of Cochin.

Mr. President: I think the answer is quite reasonable. We cannot expect an officer of ours to be quite conversant with the rules obtaining in Madras.

Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan *(Vadakkancheri):* It does not strike this side of the House as a sort of answer that we expect from a responsive Government like ours.

Mr. President: How can you say so. Perhaps it may not strike you.

Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan *(Vadakkancheri):* May I know, Sir, whether it is because of the want of time on the part of the Members of the Board that this *viva voce* examination for the purpose of testing the general knowledge and efficiency of the candidate is done away with?

Rama Varmha Tampuran *(Secretary to Government):* Where is the need for it, Sir, when he is a graduate? All these are graduates.

Mr. M. Sivarama Menon *(Advocate-General):* I may add Sir, that the main factor is not want of time because the Heads of Departments are entitled to bring to the notice of the Government that such and such a candidate is not an efficient hand he will be sent away from the office if his inefficiency is proved. Therefore even if the Board selects a candidate after interview, if the departmental head finds that he is not up to the mark he will not be in service.

Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan *(Vadakkancheri):* Is it not better to have this *viva voce* examination for the purpose of finding out who is the best amongst 3 or 4 candidates belonging to the same community?

Rama Varmha Tampuran *(Secretary to Government):* It is not 3 or 4 only. There will be 30 to 40 candidates.

Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan *(Vadakkancheri):* In the light of that answer the necessity becomes all the more pressing. It is not 3 or 4. It comes to hundreds. Therefore you are to select from a very very large number of candidates belonging to the same community, and it is stated that in such cases the very best men must be selected. What is the criterion upon which you select?

Mr. M. Sivarama Menon *(Advocate-General):* Sometimes we look to the handwriting of the applicant and sometimes we look to the marks obtained by him. All that is possible is being done.

Rama Varmha Tampuran *(Secretary to Government):* Candidates have to be selected from particular communities by rotation. Suppose there is not a suitable candidate for a post for which an Ezhuva can claim, then we have to rule out that particular community from that particular post and take the next community. These things will be known only when we actually sit and when we look through the list. If the object of the Hon'ble Member is to be achieved, the only solution is to have a Public Service Commission.

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Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan *(Vadakkancheri):* In the light of that answer, Sir, have the Government considered the desirability, nay the necessity, of appointing a Service Commission for achieving the objects mentioned here?

Rama Varmha Tampuran *(Secretary to Government):* There is no question of appointment of a Public Service Commission here. But I may say for the information of the Hon'ble Member that if the procedure to be followed is what is followed now, there is no need for a commission. But if the member wants to make a selection on a different basis altogether, probably it may be necessary to have a separate set of officers exclusively for that work. That point has to be considered in detail before an answer can be given.

Mr. A. B. Salem *(Mattancheri):* Suppose there are a large number of applicants from a particular community from which you have to select. Is there any objection for the Government to have an examination?

Rama Varmha Tampuran *(Secretary to Government);* When are we getting notice of the vacancies?

Mr. A. B. Salem *(Mattancheri):* Suppose you have to select 3 candidates. Is there any objection for these 30 candidates going over to them three or four hours before.

Mr. M. Krishna Menon *(Trichur-North):* Do not the Government think that without infringing the present communal ratio a Public Service Commission will ensure better efficiency?

Rama Varmha Tampuran *(Secretary to Government):* I think it is possible to have an examination and at the same time not disturb the communal rotation.

Mr. A. Eachara Menon *(Chittur-Rural):* Has any case of inefficiency brought to the notice of the Government by any Head of Department ?

Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan *(Vadakkancheri):* May I know whether any candidate's case has been reported by the Departmental Head as being inefficient? Do the Government normally expect such things to be brought forward?

Rama Varmha Tampuran *(Secretary to Government):* Yes. If they are incompetent, the Heads of Department can and should bring.

Rao Sahib Dr. T. Verghese *(Chief Medical Officer):* I had an occasion to report to the Government requesting for another selection because the man already selected was found inefficient.

Rao Sahib K. Ayyappan *(Ezhuvas-Kanayannur):* In view of the fact that the appointments made by the board come under the category of Rs. 25 to 40 is it necessary that there should be an examination?

Rama Varmha Tampuran *(Secretary to Government):* The same people rise to higher grades.

Rao Sahib K. Ayyappan *(Ezhuvas-Kanayannur):* Only people tested by a University are appointed there and an off-hand examination by a board cannot be better than an examination by a university. When the university examines a candidate they do not know that they are going to be appointed. When the examination is done for the purpose of appointment, there will be some difficulties.

Mr. V. J. Mathai *(Planters):* What is the difficulty? Speak out boldly.

Rao Sahib K. Ayyappan *(Ezhuvas-Kanayannur):* I think the Government will understand it.

Rama Varmha Tampuran *(Secretary to Government):* There will be no difficulty for conducting the examination. If you proceed on an examination, the results will be better.

Mr. A. B. Salem *(Mattancheri):* May I know whether you cannot have quarterly examinations and unless they pass that examination, they cannot go into the waiting list?

Mr. President: That is the procedure adopted in Madras.

Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan *(Vadakkancheri):* Our request is that it might be copied.

May I know whether after the working of the Staff Selection Board a committee had not been appointed by Government to go into the working of the Board, and on their report a waiting list of the candidates of different communities had not been published by Government in the year 1115?

Mr. M. Sivarama Menon *(Advocate-General):* Yes, a list has been published.

Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan *(Vadakkancheri):* May I know whether in the light of the rules laid down here preference has always been given to members from the waiting list?

Rama Varmha Tampuran *(Secretary to Government):* Sometimes people outside the list has been selected for want of proper hands in the waiting list. Sometimes candidates in that list will be officiating and therefore candidates from other communities may be selected.

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Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan *(Vadakkancheri)*: It is said that the candidates may be officiating and therefore candidates from other communities may be selected. When that officiating vacancy comes to an end as fixed at the time of the appointment, he becomes thrown out.

Rama Varmha Tampuran *(Secretary to Government)*: A report together with a certificate from the departmental head will be received when his term there expires. Then he will again be put in the waiting list. Sometimes the man for whose leave vacancy this candidate was appointed extends his leave. Then he will continue there till the leave period expires.

73. Mr. V. J. Mathai *(Planters)*: Will Government be pleased to state whether Government will institute a competitive examination for admission into the Cochin Civil Service, both lower and higher grades, if necessary with special reservation for communities?

Rama Varmha Tampuran *(Secretary to Government)*: Government will consider the matter.

Mr. V. J. Mathai *(Planters)*: Are the Government not taking into consideration the marks obtained in the University Examination?

Rama Varmha Tampuran *(Secretary to Government)*: Not always. Suppose we want to appoint a Demonstrator in the College. Then we look into it. Take the case of an appointment in the Secretariat. As far as possible we try to take persons who have secured a first class or a second class. In the case of other appointments we do not consider this. We go more by the rule of age.

Mr. V. J. Mathai *(Planters)*: Will not that help the Government to get best candidates?

Rama Varmha Tampuran *(Secretary to Government)*: That is one way of doing it.

മിസ്റ്റർ കെ. എസ്സ്. പണിക്കർ: ന്യൂനപ്പക്ഷങ്ങളുടെ മീതേയുള്ള ഉദ്യോഗങ്ങൾക്കും ഇതു തന്നെ ബാധകമാകുമോ?

Mr. V. J. Mathai *(Planters)*: In view of the answer that the Government will consider the matter may I take it that the Government will bestow their attention on the question of conducting examination.

Rama Varmha Tampuran *(Secretary to Government)*: The Government will look into the matter.

മിസ്റ്റർ ബി. എം പീറ്റർ: ഗവർമെണ്ടിൽ ഇപ്പോൾ സർവ്വീസിൽ ഇരിക്കുന്നവരുടെ ഇൻഎഫിഷ്യൻസിയെ സംബന്ധിച്ച് വല്ല ആക്ഷേപവും ഉള്ളതായി ഗവർമെണ്ട് ധരിച്ചിട്ടുണ്ടോ?

രാമവർമ്മ തമ്പുരാൻ: ഇൻ എഫിഷ്യൻസിയെ സംബന്ധിച്ച് പലതരത്തിലും മനസ്സിലാക്കിട്ടുണ്ട്. അതിനു വേണ്ടനടപടികളും എടുത്തിട്ടുണ്ട്.

മിസ്റ്റർ വി. കെ. കുട്ടി: ഇൻ എഫിഷ്യൻസി ആണെന്നു കണ്ടാൽ പിരിച്ചുവിടാനുള്ള അധികാരം ഗവർമെണ്ടിനില്ലേ?

രാമവർമ്മ തമ്പുരാൻ: അതുണ്ട്. എതായാലും ഒരു ഏക്സാമിനേഷ്യൻവെച്ച് പാസ്സായവരെ തിരഞ്ഞെടുക്കുകയാണെങ്കിൽ കുറെക്കൂടി നന്നായിരിക്കും.

മിസ്റ്റർ ബി. എം. പീറ്റർ: ഏക്സാമിനേഷ്യൻ പാസ്സായിട്ടും അവർ ഡിപ്പാർട്ട്മെണ്ടിൽ ഇൻ എഫിഷ്യൻറാണെന്നു കണ്ടാൽ അവരെ തള്ളികളയുക. അങ്ങിനെ ചെയ്യുവാൻ മനസ്സുണ്ടാകുമോ?

മിസ്റ്റർ വി. കെ. കുട്ടി: ഈ സംഗതിയെപ്പറ്റി ഇതിനുമുമ്പ് വളരെ റസലൂഷൻസ് ഇവിടെ അവതരിപ്പിച്ച് വാദിച്ചിട്ടുള്ളതാണ്. എല്ലാ മെമ്പർമാരും ഇതിന്റെ പ്രിൻസിപ്പിൾമാത്രം പിടിച്ച് വാദിക്കുന്നതായിട്ടാണ കാണുന്നതു. പ്രായോഗിക വശങ്ങൾ അവർ ധരിക്കുന്നില്ല. അതുകൊണ്ട് പെട്ടന്ന് ഗവർമെണ്ടു് ഇതു് അഡ്മിറ്റ ചെയ്യുന്നതെന്നു ഞാൻ അപേക്ഷിക്കുന്നു. പിന്നോക്കം നില്ക്കുന്ന സമുദായങ്ങൾക്കു വളരെ ദോഷം വരാനിടയുള്ളകാര്യമാണു ഇതു്.

രാമവർമ്മ തമ്പുരാൻ: വളരെ ദീർഘമായിട്ടും, ഗാഢമായിട്ടും ആലോചിച്ചേ ചെയ്യുന്നുള്ളു. പെട്ടന്നു യുക്തിപിടിച്ച് യാതൊന്നും ചെയ്യുന്നില്ല. അതിനെപ്പറ്റി സംശയവും വേണ്ട.

മിസ്റ്റർ വി. കെ. കുട്ടി: നിവൃത്തിയുള്ളപക്ഷം ഇതു കൊൺസിലിന്റെ മുമ്പാകെ കൊണ്ടുവരുന്നതും നന്നായിരിക്കും.

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Mr. President : As an officer coming from outside the State I can assure the House that on an average the subordinates in the Government service in the State are not inefficient and I should say that they are well up of the all India average.

Mr. V. J. Mathai *(Planters):* May I know whether there is any objection in choosing the best men from among those persons who apply without disturbing the communal ratio ?

Rama Varmha Tampuran *(Secretary to Government):* I have answered the question.

Mr. President: The Government propose to consider this question.

Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan *(Vadakkancheri):* With regard to the inefficiency not reported and the normal inefficiency I shall relate one instance. A clerk appointed by the Staff Selection Board for attending to the despatch in an office seeing an endorsement "Copies to so and so for information" sent the cover to the Information Officer. Has such an instance come to the notice of the Government ?

Rama Varmha Tampuran *(Secretary to Government):* I don't know.

Mr. A. B. Salem *(Mattancheri):* Has not a local holiday once become a public holiday ?

AMBALLUR TEXTILES

74. Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan *(Vadakkancheri):* Will Government be pleased to state.—

(*a*) whether Government have now any shares in the Amballur Textiles;

(*b*) whether Government have any control over the working of the Textiles ?

Mr. C. J. Mathew *(Joint Secretary to Government):*

(*a*) No.

(*b*) Government have no control over the working of the Textiles except as provided for in the various labour enactments such as, Factories Act, Payment of Wages Act, Workmen's Compensation Act, Labour Disputes Act, etc.

Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan *(Vadakkancheri):* May I know whether at the start the Government of Cochin had not taken shares in the Textiles ?

Mr. C. J. Mathew *(Joint Secretary to Government):* The Government had taken 1500 preference shares.

Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan *(Vadakkancheri):* What has become of those shares ?

Mr. C. J. Mathew *(Joint Secretary to Government):* They have been sold.

Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan *(Vadakkancheri):* At what price. Is it at par ?

Mr. C. J. Mathew *(Joint Secretary to Government):* These 1500 shares were sold at Rs. 106—14—0 per share making a gain of Rs. 6—14—0 per share.

Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan *(Vadakkancheri):* What will be the value of a share of the Textiles now ?

Rama Varmha Tampuran *(Secretary to Government):* It is not a public company. There are no shares.

Mr. A. Eachara Menon *(Chittur-Rural):* When the Textiles were to be started did not the then President of the House say by way of consoling us that the major part of the shares will be taken up by Cochinites ?

Mr. P. V. Raphael *(Comptroller of Finance and Accounts):* Cochin subjects took a large number of shares. But they sold them away. We cannot be responsible for that.

OFFICERS OF THE POLICE DEPARTMENT AS JUDICIAL OFFICERS

75. Mr. V. J. Mathai *(Planters):* Will Government be pleased to state how many officers of the Police Department have been appointed as Magistrates and Judicial Officers in the last five years ?

Khan Sahib Y. Muhammad Roshan Sahib Bahadur *(Commissioner of Police):* Six officers of the Police Department have been appointed as Magistrates.

(1) Messrs. A. V. Krishna Ayyar,
(2) A. Krishna Menon
(3) George Parakkal
(4) T. R. Velunny
(5) M. V. Abraham and
(6) P. A. Mohyiddin.

Mr. V. J. Mathai *(Planters):* How many Magistrates are there in Cochin State ?

Rama Varmha Tampuran *(Secretary to Government):* At present it is 8.

Mr. V. J. Mathai *(Planters):* Of these, how many were in the Police Department ?

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